

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 06203 261358Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7012
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

S E C R E T AMMAN 06203

EXDIS

JERUSALEM FOR AMBASSADOR ATHERTON

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, JO, US
SUBJECT: KING HUSSEIN ON F-16'S, STINGERS AND JORDANIAN
MILITARY MODERNIZATION

1. DURING LUNCHEON WITH AMBASSADOR ATHERTON JULY 25, KING HUSSEIN RAISED SUBJECT IN PASSING OF JORDANIAN INTEREST IN ACQUIRING F-16'S AND STINGERS, SAYING THAT HE UNDERSTOOD FROM GENERAL BIN SHAKER THAT THEIR RELEASABILITY TO JORDAN WAS A "POLITICAL DECISION." ATHERTON AND CHARGE BOTH REPLIED BY CLARIFYING THAT "POLITICAL DECISION" WAS A MISNOMER. IT MERELY MEANT THAT ARMS CONTROL AND RELATED POLITICO-MILITARY ISSUES INVOLVED WOULD REQUIRE A HIGH-LEVEL DECISION IN USG REGARDING RELEASABILITY OF SYSTEMS.

2. KING HUSSEIN ALSO MENTIONED THAT THE TOTAL COST OF JORDAN'S MILITARY MODERNIZATION LIST (PRESENTED TO SECRETARY VANCE IN DECEMBER 1977) WAS LESS THAN HALF THE COST OF THE RECENT SAUDI F-15 PURCHASE. SUDDARTH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KING, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MILITARY SALES, MILITARY CAPABILITIES
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Draft Date: 26 jul 1978
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Reason:
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